44:4002-3362/PC566.02:231072

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent)
application of:) Before the Examiner
) Not assigned
Thomas Zdeblick et al.)
)
Serial No. New Application)
) / Group Art Unit
Filed Herewith	
)
SPINAL FUSION IMPLANTS AND) Atty Docket No. 4002-3362/PC566.02
TOOLS FOR INSERTION AND)
REVISION) July 22, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

As a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified Patent Application, which application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/502,731 filed on February 11, 2000, please enter the following. Please charge any fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Express Mail Label No. EV332723808US Date of Deposit: July 22, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Patricia E. Allgood